

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-02 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00 COA-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-11 IO-14 L-03 NSF-04

NSC-07 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SCI-06 SS-20 SP-03 H-03

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 INT-08 DOTE-00 FMC-04 CG-00

DLOS-07 SWF-02 DRC-01 /188 W  
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R 231806Z SEP 74

FM AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1780

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS VANCOUVER 587

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, PFOR, CA

SUBJECT: OIL TANKERS IN PUGET SOUND

1. IN MEETING OF WASHINGTON STATE AND B.C. LEGISLATORS  
IN BELLINGHAM WASHINGTON SEPT. 21, B.C. PREMIER BARRETT  
AND WASHINGTON GOVERNOR EVANS DISCUSSED PUBLICLY OIL  
TANKER PROBLEM. BARRETT MADE CLEAR POINT THAT  
OPPOSITION TO OILTANKER MOVEMENT QUOTE WITHOUT ALTERNATIVE  
UNQUOTE WAS USELESS. HE REFERRED TO HIS PROPOSAL OF RAILROAD  
SHIPMENT OF NORTH SLOPE OIL AND NOTED THAT STATE DEPARTMENT  
AND CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES HAD GIVEN HIM AND HIS  
SUGGESTION COURTEOUS AND THOUGHTFUL ATTENTION BUT THAT  
U.S. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT COULD DO NOTHING BECAUSE  
CANADIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN NO POSITION. HE  
USED OCCASION TO COMMENT ON B.C. LIBERAL OPPOSITION LEADER  
ANDERSON S OPPOSITION TO OIL TANKER MOVEMENT BY EXPRESSING  
EQUAL CONCERN FOR PRESERVATION OF ENVIRONMENT B.C. WATERS  
COASTLINE BUT NOTED THAT LIBERAL PARTY GOVERNMENT IN  
OTTAWA HAD SO FAR FAILED TO TAKE CLEAR POSITION ON THIS  
SUBJECT AND ON ALTERNATIVES FOR MOVEMENT NORTH SLOPE  
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OIL.

2. WASHINGTON STATE CONGRESSMAN MEEDS HAD MADE  
REFERENCE TO OIL TANKER TRAFFIC IN SPEECH IN BARRETT S  
PRESENCE SEPT.20 NOTING THAT CANADIAN OPPOSITION TO OIL TANKERS  
ON WEST COAST COULD NOT BE UNDERSTOOD IN LIGHT OF LACK  
CANADIAN OPPOSITION TO OIL TANKERS ON EAST COAST.  
FOLLOWING MORNING SEVERAL AMERICANS, PRESUMABLY  
CONSTITUENTS CONGRESSMAN MEEDS, MADE DECLARATIONS TO  
GOVERNOR EVANS AND PREMIER BARRETT THAT AMERICANS LIVING  
IN PUGET SOUND AREA ARE JUST AS CONCERNED ABOUT OIL  
TANKER TRAFFIC AS CANADIAN LIVING IN THIS AREA AND THAT  
IT IS A PROBLEM WHICH MUST BE STUDIED BY GOVERNMENTS IN  
IN TERMS OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE.

3. GOVERNOR EVANS AND PREMIER BARRETT BOTH ARGUED FOR  
BETTER FUNDING AND COOPERATION IN REGARD TO NAVIGATIONAL  
AND OIL SPILL CLEANUP OPERATIONS.

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